

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 217129
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TO AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 217129

EA ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, RP

SUBJECT: ACCUSED HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATORS (ABADILLA, LTC
ROLANDO N.)

REF: (1) STATE 186862, (2) MANILA 12810

1. JULY 15, 1978, POLITICAL DETAINEES UPDATE CARRIES
ARTICLE ON PAGE 5 HEADLINED "BRONZE CROSS AWARDED METROCOM
COLONEL," CITING JULY 5 DAILY EXPRESS STORY THAT "LTC
ROLANDO N. ABADILLA, METROCOM INTELLIGENCE CHIEF, WAS
AWARDED THE BRONZE CROSS AS ONE OF THE 'TWELVE OUTSTANDING
LAWMEN' ON THE OCCASION OF THE 11TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
METROCOM." UPDATE SAYS DAILY EXPRESS STORY FAILED TO
MENTION STRONG IMPLICATIONS OF ABADILLA'S INVOLVEMENT IN
TORTURE DEATHS OF JUAN S. ADRIANO (" THE SHOEMAKER") AND
TEOTIMO TANTIADO.

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2. EMBASSY IS ALREADY AWARE OF PUBLICITY GENERATED BY
ANTI-MARCOS GROUPS HERE ON THE INCORRECT REPORT THAT
ABADILLA WAS ENROLLED IN US-SPONSORED MILITARY TRAINING
PROGRAM (REFTELS). WE CAN EXPECT REPORT OF THIS AWARD WILL
BE PUBLICIZED HERE TO REBUT GOP CLAIMS THAT PERSONNEL
ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED IN MISTREATMENT OF DETAINEES WILL BE
DISCIPLINED.

3. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S PROVIDING COMPLETE TEXT OF DAILY EXPRESS STORY.

4. PLEASE NOTE FOR EA ONLY CAPTION.

CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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